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Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRETOR 02841 171146Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /095 W
----------128349 171155Z /46
P R 171055Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1231
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

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CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENT
DISCUSSED BY EC

1. PRESS ACCOUNTS STATE THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL (EC) AT A
MAY 16 SESSION ACCEPTED A MINISTERIAL COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION
THAT THE INDEPENDENT GOVERNMENT WILL BE HEADED BY A TITULAR
PRESIDENT, TO BE ELECTED BY AN ELECTORAL COLLEGE OF MEMBERS
OF PARLIAMENT, AND LED BY A PRIME MINISTER APPOINTED FROM
AND RESPONSIBLE TO PARLIAMENT. THERE WILL ALSO BE A SENATE
AS WELL AS PARLIAMENT. ALL THESE SUGGESTIONS ARE TO BE
ENTRENCHED CLAUSES IN THE NEW CONSTITUTION NOW BEING DRAFTED.
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2. ONE ACCOUNT ALSO SAYS THAT THE EC DISCUSSED HOW VOTING
IS TO BE CARRIED OUT FOR THE INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS TO
BE HELD BEFORE DECEMBER 31. IT REPORTS THAT THE STRONGEST
SUPPORT IS FOR A
PARTY LIST SYSTEM, WITH VOTES BEING
CAST FOR A PARTY (OR ITS LEADER) AND

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THE LEADER THEN
ALLOCATING PARLIAMENTARY SEATS ON A PROPORTIONAL

REPRESENTATION BASIS.

3. COMMENT: IF THESE CLAUSES DO BECOME ENTRENCHED IN
THE NEW CONSTITUTION, IT WILL GIVE THE WHITES, THROUGH
THEIR DISPROPORTIONATE REPRESENTATION IN PARLIAMENT,
A SIGNIFICANT IF NOT DOMINANT SAY OVER THE PRESIDENTIAL
AND PRIME MINISTERIAL APPOINTEES. THE APPOINTEES MAY,
THEREFORE, NOT REFLECT THE POPULAR WILL, WHICH WOULD
PROBABLY HAVE MEANT A BLACK LEADER IN BOTH POSITIONS.
THE SUGGESTED VOTING PROCEDURE APPEARS TO FAVOR CHIRAU
AND SITHOLE TO A CERTAIN EXTENT. WHEREAS, AS PARTY LEADERS,
THEY CAN GARNER A SET PERCENTAGE OF VOTES, THEY MAY NOT
HAVE FARED SO WELL IF FORCED TO FIND CAPABLE CANDIDATES
TO CONTEST SUCH CONSTITUENCY.
NELSON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
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Concepts: INDEPENDENCE, ELECTIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780549/aaaabpkk.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 75edb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2663091
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RHODESIA: INDEPENDENCE ELECTIONS AND GOVERNMENT DISCUSSED BY EC
TAGS: PINT, PDEV, RH
To: STATE USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/75edb39b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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